

Letters From the People

A Momentous Question.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR: One of the most momentous questions ever brought before our people for solution will be that of annexation to Newark, which will be decided at a special election to be held here next Thursday. Are you ready for it? The scheme was hatched by a cove of disgruntled politicians. "It was conceived in sin and born in iniquity." Are the citizens of this community willing to see the honored and historic name of dear old Bloomfield effaced from the map of New Jersey? Are we to sell our birthright for "a mess of pottage"? It is claimed by those who favor the measure that we shall go to a better governed place. Is Newark better governed or more moral than Bloomfield? Listen to what Joshua Brerly, a well known business man of this city and a member of the Board of Health there, has to say on this subject:

"I think our Board of Works is a disgrace and an insult to decency and good government. There is a man in the board body and soul. If the present Board of Works will not help the citizens in what is right, let us see to it that we get some new men there, as we cannot let things stay as they are—we must have some better men."

What do you think of the above, ye howlers after better government? Could anything be more explicit? Does it not show that there is a rotten government in the city into which some of our residents would plunge us? How much better off would we be in such an ill-governed place? "Read, mark, and inwardly digest," before you take a leap into the dark.

I would also like to call the especial attention of the annexationists to a sermon delivered by Rev. Henry R. Rose in the Church of the Redeemer in Newark last fall. Here is what he said:

"Dirty politics are politics that throw dirt at clean men; politics that are working for their own pockets all the time; politics that run the errands for the unscrupulous corporations; politics that obey the commands of the conscienceless houses. Such politics are perilous to a nation. They are cancerous. Once let their poisons enter deeply into the body politics and it will decay, agonize, and die."

"I tell you, fellow-citizens, you cannot have dirty politics and a satisfactory city at one and the same time. What is the remedy? First, a new civic desire. We must wake up here in Newark and demand good government. Good government empties the jails, the hospitals, the asylums, the courts. It lowers the tax rate. It makes business better. It invites to the city a higher grade of citizens."

"Look at our police department—it cannot shut up a dice and keep it shut; it cannot clean out the scum of these copper, balls; it cannot even wred out the debauching penny-in-the-slot machines."

"But worst of all, dirty politics make a debauching city. Vice is smallpox. It catches. The daughters of our best homes are not safe; the sons of our most fashionable streets are in danger; the heads of our most respected houses are in peril."

Fellow-citizens of Bloomfield, are you pining to go to such a "delectable" place? I trow not. If the above extracts will not convince our people of the enormous risks we are taking in the attempt at annexation, what will? Remember, that if once annexed the thing cannot be undone. The people in general revolt at the idea. Shall we blot out forever our cherished name? Shades of our fathers, save us from such a disgrace! The people stand aghast with bated breath to hear of the result of next Thursday. Let it not be

IN MEMORIAM.

Some Obvious Considerations.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR: It is a truism that in union there is wisdom and strength. The members of the human family lose nothing by their connection with the whole organism.

For one hundred and fifty years Bloomfield was a part of Newark. Discovered living tissues, they were sure in time to reunite. With the breath of life blown come to its bone. The old families of both places are from the same stock; their original history and traditions are the same; it is natural that they should draw together again.

There are certain obvious advantages in belonging to a large city. Paul manfully gloried in the fact that he was the free born citizen "of no mean city." This pride of amplitude is natural and well founded; the humblest citizen has some possession in the wealth, power and honor of the whole city in which he lives. Newark would be larger by no mean addition after the accession of Bloomfield. A new center, holding no focal position, may say without presumption that Bloomfield possesses resources which would enrich any city. Our beautiful parks; our large churches and able pastors; our many elegant residences and handsome shaded streets; our manufacturing establishments; our large body of able and cultured population; the venerable historic associations of the place; the honors that have been bestowed by our citizens; the admirable schools; the noble Jarvis Library; the general virtue, intelligence and thrift of the people—all these, if the larger Newark should ever include the whole region within the Orange mountains, will constitute Bloomfield the crown jewel of the whole collection. Then also the free Public Library of Newark; her churches, schools, banks, stores, lodges, parks, museums, hospitals and numerous varied benevolent institutions would become in some important sense our own. In various ways we should have more free access to and more complete use of all these than we can otherwise have. We should share

the honor and enjoyment of all that Newark now has; while it is no presumption to say that Newark would gain as well as we for advantage.

There is also, of course, possible a large economy in the planning of conveniences and adornments for adjacent populations. Conflicting schemes are avoided, and mutual co-operation prevails. A certain esprit-de-corps, pride and enthusiasm of the whole is secured, to the great benefit of all who are concerned.

On the other hand, it is a truism that the surest way to be well taken care of is to take care of yourself. Individually, independence, local legislation, State's rights, as well as union, are American ideas. In respect to schools, taxes, water supply and the restriction of saloons it is believed by many that Bloomfield would suffer serious loss by annexation. Facts and figures, some of which are questioned by both sides, are adduced by all. All are equally desirous of the highest good to the town. It cannot be expected that all should think precisely alike. That is not human. Ecclesiasticism as well as civil bodies divide on matters of opinion. There is equal intelligence, honesty and good will on both sides. This should be assumed; no free Church or State is possible without it. All should act upon their own convictions and respect those of others. At the friendly meeting, largely attended, held on Saturday evening, March 19, light was thrown upon the question from varied angles of vision, enabling all to understand better the whole subject. Such interchange of views promotes mutual confidence and satisfaction. Cordial acceptance of the will of the majority, whatever it may be, is an American principle. At Lincoln's first election one of his most strenuous Democratic opponents brilliantly illuminated his house on the evening after the election. The Republican torch-light procession, amid their jubulations, halted before his house and demanded of him an explanation. He simply replied: "Gentlemen, Mr. Lincoln is low my President as much as you."

When Secretary Seward, after the war, was endeavoring to harmonize the North and the South on things which he considered less essential, he used to say that he and his wife seldom differed, but that if they did and she would give up, he always knew where he would. Strong arguments may be adduced on both sides of all questions of opinion not involving fundamental principles. Each side may continue, if they choose to regard their own views as the best, while loyally submitting to the referendum principle that the majority must rule. Paul said of a certain question: "Those who did one thing did well, and those who did the opposite did better." Bloomfield will fare very well either in or out of Newark. Let all who may cherish the sentiment in regard to his own vote, think of the honest Liberator, who when asked if one man was not as good as another, answered: "Yes, and a great deal better."

SAMUEL W. BOARDMAN.

For and Against.

BLOOMFIELD, N. J., March 29, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR: I have read with considerable interest the article in last week's edition of your paper regarding annexation, and note the bitter tone of apprehension in which your language is couched, and have become convinced that your fears in the direction of loose license privileges are entirely without foundation. Would a man of the stamp of David G. Garabrant, who has steadily and persistently opposed a liberal saloon license both as to its granting and enforcement, and whose later at influence has helped to reduce the number of saloons in this town from forty-two to nineteen, deliberately throw aside the fruits and results of the condition which his activity has produced in order to urge and advocate a policy which you interpret to mean the complete demoralization and degradation of the young element of this town?

With all this argument for and against annexation, the one significant and prominent feature which stands out above every other is that only those who are deriving income from the township's treasury are the ones who are opposed to annexation. Are these people to be allowed to retard the progress and growth of the township in order to satisfy their mercenary motives?

Every intelligent and interested voter should carefully consider this matter and advance the interests of the community, regardless of those whose views are personal, by voting for annexation.

JOHN JAGER.

Town Clerk's Notice

—OF—

Registry and Special Election.

Notice is hereby given that a SPECIAL ELECTION IN THE Town of Bloomfield WILL BE HELD ON Thursday, April 7, 1904,

at which election there will be submitted to the legal voters of the Town of Bloomfield, the question of Annexation and Ordinance of the Township of Bloomfield with the City of Newark under the terms and provisions of an Act of the Legislature of this State, approved March 25, 1904.

The Boards of Registry and Election will meet in their respective Election Districts on THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 1904, from 7 to 9 P. M., for the purpose of revising and correcting the Register of Voters. The said Boards will meet and the Election be held at the following named places:

First Ward, First District—Schneider's Barber Shop, 31 Broad Street. First Ward, Second District—Store 149 Montgomery Avenue. Second Ward, First District—Excelsior Hose House, 275 Broad Street. Third Ward, First District—Dodd's Hall, 297 Glenwood Avenue. Second Ward, Second District, Active Hose House, 25 Willow Street.

The Polls will be Open on Election Day from 6 a. m. to 7 p. m.

WM. L. JOHNSON, Town Clerk.

BLOOMFIELD, N. J., March 29, 1904.

Empire Theatre.

The story of "Out of the Fold," Langdon McCormick's most successful play, is of the character that appeals to every theatregoer. The piece is founded on a theme which has often attracted the attention of the playwright, poet and novelist, that of the regeneration of a woman who has sinned and repented, as a woman who has committed a grievous sin of her sex entitled to the love of a good man? For decades this subject has occupied the attention of the world's greatest thinkers, orators and writers, and it has remained for Langdon McCormick to offer a solution to the problem which is presented in this drama, both original and startling. Wherever it has been presented it has aroused comment, but no dissenting voice in the belief that the play is one of unusual merit and is interpreted by an exceptionally strong company. Miss Sylvia Bidwell, who has achieved success in many leading roles, and who will be remembered for her clever performance in "Toll Gate Inn," plays the pathetic "Helene," who tries to "rise from her dead self" to better things. The play will be put on the stage at the Empire Theatre, Newark, April 4. Matinees Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.

The place to see the newest and choicest things in cut glass for Easter gifts is at the glass store of C. Dorfinger & Sons, 3 and 5 West 19th Street, near Fifth Avenue, New York.—Advt.

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General Offices: 81 Beach Street, New York. H. B. WALKER, V. P. & Traf. Mgr. J. J. BROWN, G. P. A.

\$90,000

Water System Bonds of the Town of Bloomfield, N. J.

Sealed proposals will be received by the Town Council of the Town of Bloomfield for all or any part of an issue of \$90,000 four per cent. coupon (with privilege of registration) Water System Bonds of said town. Bonds to be of the denomination of \$1,000 each, to be dated April 1, 1904, and to mature \$15,000 April 1, 1919, and \$5,000 annually thereafter until all are paid. Interest payable semi-annually on April 1 and October 1. Both interest and principal payable at the office of the United States Mortgage and Trust Company in New York City.

The bonds will be engraved under the supervision of and certified as to genuineness by the United States Mortgage and Trust Company, and the legality approved by J. H. Caldwell, Esq., of New York City, whose opinion as to legality or duplicate thereof will be delivered to the purchaser.

A certified check for three per cent. of the amount of bonds bid for, payable to Harry L. Osborne, Treasurer of the Town of Bloomfield, N. J., must accompany each bid. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids. Proposals should be endorsed "Proposals for Water System Bonds" and be addressed to William L. Johnson, Town Clerk, Bloomfield, N. J., and will be received at the Town Clerk's office in Bloomfield, or at the United States Mortgage and Trust Company, 48 Cedar Street, New York City, until 10:30 o'clock A. M. Monday, April 4, 1904, and will be opened at 1 o'clock P. M. April 4, 1904.

Delivery of the bonds will be made on April 5, 1904, at 11 o'clock A. M., at the office of the United States Mortgage and Trust Company, New York City.

GEORGE PETERSON, Town Clerk.

WILLIAM L. JOHNSON, Town Clerk.

BLOOMFIELD, N. J., March 16, 1904.

Miss Cornelia D. Milner,

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Nine Acres more of Fashionable Outergarments, Millinery, Laces, Embroideries, Silks, Velvets, Woolen Dress Goods and Wash Fabrics, American and French Hand-made Undermuslins, Linens, Linings, Art Embroideries, Lamps, Housefurnishings, Cut Glass, Fine China, Bric-a-brac, Baby Carriages, Go-Carts, Men's and Boys' Clothing, Trunks, etc.

Travelers' Conveniences, Harness, Books, Stationery, Men's Furnishings, Trimmings, Ribbons, Jewelry, Silver and Silverware, Cutlery, Watches, Clocks, Leather Goods, etc.

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ASSETS (Market Value) Jan. 1, 1904.....\$87,458,899 12

LIABILITIES.....\$0,748,046 91

SURPLUS.....6,710,842 21

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District Agent

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